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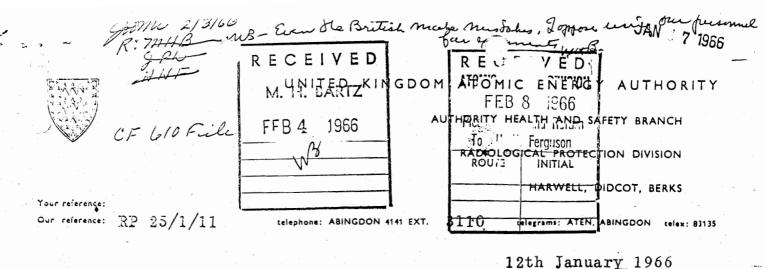
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DOCUMENT NO.: T070306 DOCUMENT TITLE: LETTER FROM H. J. DUNSTER TO DR. J. R. HORAN

REGARDING HUMAN VOLUNTEERS

CROSS REFERENCES: ITEMS OF INTEREST:



Dr. C. R. Horan,
Director, Health and Safety Division,
Caho Operations Office,
Bex 2108,
Idahc Falls.
Dear

RECEIVED
J. P. LYON
FEB 7 1966
JPL

When you visited us recently, I promised to obtain for you a summary of our policy on experiments with volunteers. Our detailed document on the subject is too specifically related to Authority establishments to be of great help to you, and so I have extracted the following basic principles, which are a summary prepared by K. P. Duncan, the Authority's Chief Medical Officer. He emphasises that there must be some central point within an organisation which brings together information about the experiments and who is doing them. The responsibilities of the scientists in charge are then fairly clear:

1. He must explain to his panel of volunteers the nature and purpose of the experiment, including such points as radiation dose involved and so on;

The scientist must ensure that the "volunteers" concerned are seen by the doctor. There are several purposes here. of which not the least is the opportunity for the "volunteer" to opt out. For this reason the doctor will obviously give no reasons for his selections and therefore a man may not take part in an experiment either because he has decided he was pressurised into it, or has changed his mind, or because the doctor does not think he This duty on the doctor of satisfying is suitable. himself as to the true nature of the "volunteer" I regard as being very important. The doctor also has the duty of recording the interview on the man's medical documents. and this is of far more value than any system of signing bits of paper or anything of that sort, and it seems to me a very valuable use of the privacy of the ethical doctor/ patient relationship. It is here, in my view, that the true safeguard lies.

3. All parties have to satisfy themselves that the experiment is a useful one and that the acceptance of the radiation

dose by the volunteers contributes materially to the experiment. Clearly these doses should be no larger than necessary and must in any case be within any national standards which may have been set.

I hope you will find this information useful.

Yours sincerely,

H. J. Dunster Health Physics Adviser